

# Winfield To Stay In Draft

By MURRAY CHASS

If Dave Winfield is to become a Yankee, he apparently will have to do it as a free agent. Winfield said last night that he would not withdraw his name from the free-agent draft, practically ending any chance the Yankees had to acquire him in a trade with the San Diego Padres.

"My name is out there," Winfield said in a telephone interview from San Diego. "I will not ask them to rescind it. I don't think the best way to proceed now would be to try to take my name off the list. I don't think it would be wise for anyone."

Commenting publicly for the first time on the case, Winfield said his decision to remain on the free-agent list was necessary because "it's already a complicated situation."

Tuesday it was learned that the Yankees and the Padres had worked out a deal in which Winfield would be sent to the Yankees before he became a free agent if the Yankees could reach agreement with him on a new contract. But the following day, the Major League Baseball Players Association, at Winfield's direction, submitted his name as a free agent to the Player Relations Committee.

Now that he was officially a declared free agent, Winfield no longer was in a position to discuss financial terms with the Yankees. The Padres are the only team with which he can discuss money, and he can do that only until Nov. 10, three days before the free-agent re-entry draft is held.

"They haven't spoken to me," said Winfield, whose relationship with the

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Padres' front office ended in acrimony. "But if they wanted to talk to me and I'm around, I would talk to them."

Before yesterday's development, there was a suggestion that the Padres could negotiate a new contract with Winfield, in effect acting for the Yankees, then trade him to New York after signing him. But such a sequence of events apparently would be viewed with suspicion by baseball officials.

Unless the Padres could show clearly that they were negotiating on their own and not as a surrogate for the Yankees, Commissioner Bowie Kuhn and Ray Grebey, director of the Player Relations Committee, very likely would step in and hold up the deal.

That, in turn, could lead to a grievance filed by the players association and probably the kind of messy situation Winfield says he wants to avoid.

Winfield also appears to want to play somewhere acceptable to him. With that in mind, he said he would advise certain teams within a few days that he had no interest in playing for them and would hope they would not select negotiating rights to him in the Nov. 13 draft.

"I'm talking about more than half the teams," he said. "I feel at this stage of my career I should be able to pick the place where I play. There are cities I won't go to. I will let everybody know so that there can be no misunderstanding."

## **Wants Yanks to Have a Chance**

George Steinbrenner, the Yankees' principal owner, was prompted to pursue Winfield in a trade because he feared that the Yankees, who select last in the draft by virtue of having had the best record this season, would be prevented from gaining negotiating rights to him. That would happen if 13 of the 25 teams drafting ahead of the Yankees selected Winfield.

By notifying more than half the teams that he has no desire to play for them, which is a method used previously by free agents, including Nolan Ryan last year, Winfield will try to guarantee the Yankees an opportunity to draft rights to him.

Winfield apparently would have listened to a proposal from the Yankees if it had come before he set his free agency in motion.

"When the season was over," he

said, "I didn't feel I would be back in San Diego, so I called Marvin Miller and said I was going to opt for free agency. Then about four or five days ago I heard talk about the Yankees and the Padres trying to formulate a trade. Nobody told me about it and my name was already in. It was too late to do anything."

Conceivably, the Padres and Yankees still could seek permission for the Yankees to negotiate directly with San Diego, but it is not very likely such permission would be granted. Grebey, Miller's counterpart with the owners, declined to discuss his opinion of such a request, saying, "Nobody has asked me for any decisions at this point in time."

Eleven other players filed for free agency yesterday, bringing the total to 28. The latest to file were Marty Pattin and Pete LaCock of Kansas City; Lee May of Baltimore; Dave Rader of Boston; Jesse Jefferson of Pittsburgh; Juan Beniquez of Seattle; José Morales of Minnesota; Mike Sadek of San Francisco, and Lenny Randle, Mick Kelleher and Larry Biittner of the Chicago Cubs.

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